

MEMO FOR THE RECORD

By: Donald C. Norseth

Re: Central Utah Canal Seepage Study

Date: June 9, 1970

A reconnaissance survey was made June 9, 1970, by Roger Walker and Donald C. Norseth of the Central Utah Canal Seepage Study which is set up to check the water loss from the diversion point of the canal in Leamington Canyon to the Holden-McCormick Gauge, a distance of approximately 48 miles. The seepage study was prompted by the Millard County Water Conservancy District and the United States Bureau of Reclamation to determine whether the Central Utah Canal Company should receive water from the Central Utah Project or whether delivery of water into this canal is economically feasible.

It would appear to the author that this canal would become an important part of the conveyance of the 1500 ac.-ft. of water to the Delta area from the Central Utah Project. The Delta people at a public meeting expressed the opinion that a fair share of the 1500 ac.-ft. could be awarded to the Central Utah Canal Company. It would appear that the capacity of this canal would be needed to convey any water to the Delta area and that the development of the large, flat area that could be served by the canal not now being developed would pay for the water.

During the reconnaissance the canal appeared to be in adequate shape over almost all its entire length. There is some maintenance needed in cleaning the banks. However, it would not appear that seepage is a prevalent problem. Most of the seepage would probably go down into the mud flats or the Delta area. The most prevalent problems with the canal are the open turn-outs with no measuring devices and the lack of a good sound administrative policy pertaining both to maintenance and to stockholder regulation.

In setting up the seepage study the length of the canal in excess of 50 miles was considered, and the gauging station was established in accordance with soil variation, turn-out relationships, and topographical features. The first gauge was set approximately 40 miles below the uppermost gauge. The gauges moving upstream are as follows: (1) Holden-McCormick, (2) Oak City-Holden, (3) Oak City-Delta, (4) Oak City-Lynndal, and (5) Landis Check. In addition, the parshall flume at the Grover Lane Station will be read as an additional check. These gauges consist of corrugated pipe, staff gauges, and A-35 recorders. They are being read by Roger Walker, the Bureau of Reclamation, and the United States Geologic Survey. They all appear to be satisfactorily installed, and the readings are now started.

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The expenses needed to cover the travel to the gauges, the work on the sheets, and the dispersing of the flow records appears to be the critical need at this time. I would recommend that, in accordance with the letter from Dan Lawrence, the \$600 be set up for the expenditures necessitated by Roger Walker in carrying out the project.